

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 224132  
ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-05 PRS-01 USIE-00 /021 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/ECA:RCGRAHAM:RC  
APPROVED BY ARA/ECA:RWZIMMERMANN  
-----025657 191646Z /46  
O 191632Z SEP 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SHUM, PA

SUBJECT: NEW TIME ARTICLE ASSOCIATES JOSEF MENGELE WITH  
GENOCIDE AGAINST ACHE INDIANS.

1. THE SEPTEMBER 26 ISSUE OF TIME MAGAZINE CONTAINS  
AN ARTICLE ON SIMON WIESENTHAL'S SEARCH FOR JOSEF MENGELE.  
THE ARTICLE STATES THAT MENGELE IS NOW LIVING IN SAN  
ANTONIO, PARAGUAY, WITH ANOTHER HOUSE IN PUERTO STROESSNER.  
IT DESCRIBES HIS RECENT ACTIVITIES IN PARAGUAY AND  
CONTAINS THE FOLLOWING CHARGE, WHICH WILL UNDOUBTEDLY  
ADD FUEL TO THE CHARGES OF GENOCIDE WHICH HAVE BEEN  
BROUGHT AGAINST THE GOP.

2. QUOTE. THE UGLIEST SPECULATION ABOUT MENGELE IS THAT  
ONCE AGAIN HE MAY BE INVOLVED IN THE DESTRUCTION OF A  
PEOPLE - THOUGH ON A MUCH SMALLER SCALE. DESPITE  
PARAGUAYAN DENIALS, TIME'S SOURCES BELIEVE THAT HE SERVES  
AS AN ADVISER TO THE PARAGUAYAN POLICE AND FREQUENTLY  
TRAVELS TO THE REMOTE CHACO REGION WHERE THE ACHE INDIANS  
ARE BEING HUNTED DOWN OR REDUCED TO SLAVE LABOR THROUGH  
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TECHNIQUES THAT ARE CHILLINGLY REMINISCENT OF THOSE OF THE  
GERMAN WORK CAMPS. A HIGH PARAGUAYAN POLICE OFFICIAL

BOASTED TO A VISITING INVESTIGATOR THAT HIS GOVERNMENT  
USES "GERMAN METHODS" IN DEALING WITH THE INDIANS. UNQUOTE.

3. ARA WAS ADVISED OF THE STORY BEFORE ITS PUBLICATION,

AND BOTH AMBASSADOR LANDAU AND DESK OFFICER GRAHAM SPOKE TO TIME'S DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT, STROBE TALBOTT. WE OFFERED THE EMBASSY'S REPORTING ON THE GENOCIDE CHARGES AND AMBASSADOR LANDAU STRESSED THAT HE HAD NEVER HEARD OF ANY CONNECTION BETWEEN MENGELE AND THE INDIANS. THE PARAGUAYAN AMBASSADOR, WHEN QUERIED BY TIME, BLAMED THE GENOCIDE CHARGES ON THE POLITICAL OPPOSITION.

4. THE DECISION TO PUBLISH THE STORY WAS APPARENTLY MADE AFTER TIME RECHECKED WITH PROFESSOR RICHARD ARENS WHO, ACCORDING TO TALBOTT, STATED THAT HE IS MORE CONVINCED THAN EVER OF THE TRUTH OF HIS GENOCIDE CHARGES FOLLOWING HIS TRIP TO PARAGUAY.

5. THE ABOVE IS FOR YOUR INFORMATION. WE DO NOT BELIEVE ANY FURTHER EMBASSY INVESTIGATION OF THE GENOCIDE CHARGES AND ALLEGED MENGELE CONNECTION ARE REQUIRED AT THIS TIME. IT IS FOR THE GOP TO ANSWER THE TIME ARTICLE RATHER THAN US.

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## Message Attributes

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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
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**TAGS:** SHUM, SOPN, PA, (MENGELE, JOSEF)  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009